

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13 are pending herein. New independent claim 13 has been added for the purpose of providing a claim that is generic to all of the species outlined on page 2 of the Office Action.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, species I for initial examination in this application. Claims 1-6 read on the elected species and new claim 13 is generic to both of species I and II outlined on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement, since it is believed that Species I and II are sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for both species could be conducted by the U.S. PTO without serious burden. Accordingly, the PTO is requested to withdraw the Election of Species Requirement and examine Species I and II in this application.

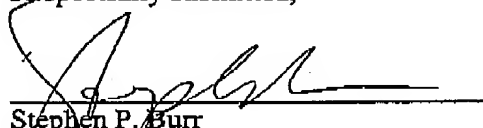
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

August 30, 2004

Date


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